Revised Introduction
March 2012

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

***Instructions for applicants*:**

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:
Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Please complete all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). For nonproject actions.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
   Black Lake Access Improvements

2. Name of applicant:
   Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
   600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501: Chris Gourley (360) 902-8392

4. Date checklist prepared:
   04/10/14

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Construction scheduled to begin July 2015

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None at this time.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

None are known at this time.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

A Thurston County Shoreline Substantial Development Permit (JARPA), a Thurston County Critical Area Review Permit, a Thurston County Septic Review Permit, a US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit, Department of Ecology 401 certification, and a WDFW HPA Permit will be needed.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This project includes the removal of two existing degraded boat ramps. New WDFW standard boat ramp planks with articulated concrete mats will be installed with a new ADA compliant boarding float in the middle. Existing toilets will be removed. New ADA compliant vault toilets will be added along with an ADA parking stall. Asphalt overlay will be placed in paved areas. New striping and wheel stops will be installed in the western parking area (nearest the ramps) after new asphalt is placed. Some fencing and a gate will be replaced in current locations.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, "and county" if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The Black Lake Public Access Site is located in Thurston County on Fairview St SW. Take exit 102 from I-5 and go west on Trosper Rd 2.6 miles. Then go south on Black Lake-Belmore Rd for 1 mile and west on 66th Ave SW for 0.2 miles. The access is on the right side of the street. It is located in Township 17N, Range 02W, Section 06 and the parcel number is 12706440400.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site
(circle one): Flat, **rolling**, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,
other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Approximately 15% from the top to the bottom of the ramp.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

The shoreline soils of the area are classified as Cagey loamy sand. These soils occur on slopes of 0 to 4 percent, form on terraces, and have a parent material of sandy glacial drift. These are moderately well drained soils. In the transition zone between the shoreline and the upper terrace of the landscape, soils are Indianola loamy sand occurring on 15 to 30 percent slopes. Upland from this soil type is Indianola loamy sand occurring on slopes from 0 to 3 percent. These soils come from the same parent materials as the other two and occur on terraces.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The purpose of the project is to improve public access of Black Lake by making parking and driveway improvements, removal and reconstruction of two boat ramps, addition of a boarding float, and installation of two ADA compliant vault toilets. There will be minor grading to re-grade the parking area. Relocation of both ramps will also require grading. Articulated concrete matting will be placed around the new ramps to reduce erosion. Fill will be composed of clean crushed rock, pre-cast concrete ramps, and pre-cast articulated concrete mats.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Not likely. There will be a minimum of new disturbed areas with all construction occurring within previously disturbed and utilized areas. The addition of a boarding float and articulated concrete mats will help reduce erosion caused by boaters that are unable to launch from shore with ease.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

The site is 2.40 acres. Of that, 0.70 acres is currently impervious pavement or 29%. Asphalt overlay will occur, as well as new asphalt placement over currently graveled areas. Overlay will account for 30,624 square feet and new pavement over gravel will account for 11,072 square feet. There will not be any added impervious surface as the project footprint does not extend beyond the current footprint, though some surface materials are changing. Total new asphalt will be 0.95 acres, increasing the amount of asphalt to 40%.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures will be used during construction as described in the site plans. Staging and refueling of machines will be conducted out of the OHWM with non-toxic lubricants. Additional siltation prevention BMPs include filter fabric fences and hay bales. At project conclusion, these materials will be removed by hand and taken to an approved disposal site out of the flood zone.

All exposed soils will be sloped to promote runoff and covered with straw mulch and grass seed. Any disturbed plants above OHW will be replanted with native species within the riparian area. All work will be done in accordance with the terms and conditions of required permits. Please see site drawings for additional details.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected from the completed project.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Standard emission control converters and mufflers would be in use by construction vehicles.

3. **Water**

a. Surface Water:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Black Lake is located at the property's edge and is the water body that will be accessed with site improvements. The lake has been highly developed, with its shoreline developed in many places with homes and access. Motor boats are allowed on the lake and many access docks and launches are present.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

The work will be conducted adjacent to, at the shoreline, and in the water of the lake.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

The ramps will be removed and replaced with two new ramps in Black Lake. Approximately 51.21 CY of material will be removed below OHWM and replacement material in the form of the new boat ramp and subgrade gravel will be placed in the

lake totaling 42.9 cubic yards, including the crushed rock and base course under the ramps.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

The boat ramps will not require a diversion or withdrawal of surface water for removal or replacement. A silt curtain will be placed in the water to contain any turbidity.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Yes. The lake is within the floodplain with a flood elevation of 133 feet by FEMA as being within the 100-year floodplain according to map 53067C0280E.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No. Any wastes will be contained within the turbidity curtain installed around the ramps during the time of demolition and construction.

b. Ground Water:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

Not Applicable.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Storm water treatment will not be not changed or affected in any way. Currently storm water is directed to grass filter strips and small drainage ditches at the edges of the current parking area. The water then flows into the lake.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

Yes. Because all storm water drains to the lake, waste materials may reach the lake. The filter strips of grass help to reduce waste, but overland flow can direct wastes to the lake without filtration. Waste materials are not likely to reach ground water.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures will be used during construction as described in the site plans. Staging and refueling of machines will be conducted out of the OHWM with non-toxic lubricants. During project demolition and construction, a turbidity curtain will be installed around the ramps to contain any debris and turbidity. Additional siltation prevention BMPs include filter fabric fences, straw wattles, and hay bales. At

project conclusion, these materials will be removed by hand and taken to an approved disposal site out of the flood zone.

All exposed soils will be sloped to promote runoff and covered with mulch and grass seed. All work will be done in accordance with the terms and conditions of required permits. Please see site drawings for additional details.

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

___x___ deciduous tree: **alder**, **maple**, aspen, other: cottonwood
___x___ evergreen tree: **fir**, **cedar**, pine, other
___x___ shrubs
___x___ grass
_____ pasture
_____ crop or grain
_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
_____ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

No vegetation will be removed.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

The Natural Heritage Program (NHP) databases as well as the federal agency listings (USFWS) were examined for threatened or endangered plants on October 21, 2013. Threatened plants listed in Thurston County include the following: *Carex densa* (Dense sedge), *Heterotheca oregona* (Oregon goldenaster), *Euonymus occidentalis var. occidentalis* (Western wahoo), *Howellia aquatilis* (Howellia), *Pityopus californica* (pine-foot), *Polemonium carneum* (Great Polemonium), *Polystichum californicum* (California sword fern), and *Symphyotrichum hallii* (Hall's aster). Endangered plants include the following: *Castilleja levisecta* (golden paintbrush), *Lathyrus vestitus ssp. bolanderi* (Pacific pea), and *Sidalcea malviflora ssp. virgata* (rose checker-mallow). All of the threatened species have been recorded in recent and historical times outside the project area. All of the endangered species also have been documented far from the project site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

There will not be any enhancement of vegetation on the site.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: **hawk**, **heron**, **eagle**, **songbirds**, other:
mammals: **deer,** bear**,** elk**,** beaver, other:
fish: **bass**, **salmon**, **trout,** herring, shellfish, other

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), and Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) are all listed as threatened species in Thurston County by US Fish and Wildlife.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Many migratory bird species use this area as part of a migration route along the Pacific Flyway.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

To preserve fish and wildlife resources, WDFW will time this project to have minimal impact upon wildlife per permit requirements. Trees will not be removed.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None are needed.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None are included.

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

None.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Avoid use of toxic chemicals and materials.

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Increased levels of noise during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise levels will be 7am to 6pm. No change in noise level is expected from the completed project, though boat traffic is expected to continue.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

No special noise reduction efforts are planned.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The current use is a public boat launch with trailer and vehicle parking and two vault toilet facilities. The site is used for boating, swimming, and fishing. The adjacent properties include private homes and a county park.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

This site has two boat ramps, an established gravel parking area with paved driving areas, and two vault toilets.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

The toilet structures and their fencing will be removed. Some other fencing on the property will be removed and replaced in the same location as maintenance.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Open Space

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Unknown

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Conservancy

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Thurston County has concluded that this parcel has an area of critical buffers for wetlands.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

None.

L . Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

None.

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

None.

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The tallest new structure would be a new eight-foot vault toilet. The principle building material will be concrete.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None.

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? **None.** What time of day would it mainly occur?

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None.

12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The area is used for fishing, swimming, and boating.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

ADA toilet accessibility will be added for the site and the new boat ramps and boarding float will allow for easier lake access.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation show there are no known sites near the project site and has approved work without a further detailed study via a concurrence letter to WDFW. Thurston County does not list the parcel as being a historical site.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Not Applicable.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

Keep project within the proposed footprint.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Fairview Rd SW provides direct access to this site. No modifications will be made to the existing road.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The site is not served by public transit. The nearest stop is approximately 2.6 miles away at the junction of Israel Road and Littlerock Road in Tumwater.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The completed project will have altered parking from the current arrangement. Parking areas will also be restriped. No parking will be lost. Currently the site does not have parking spots formally delineated at the western end of the parcel. As proposed, the new parking area would have 17 newly delineated trailer parking spots and one shorter passenger vehicle parking spot. The gravel parking lot which is closer to the road will be restriped to delineate angle parking rather than the existing straight spots.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

No additional vehicular trips are anticipated.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None.

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None.

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: **No utilities exist at this site.**
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No utilities are planned this site.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Name of signee: **Chris Gourley**
Position and Agency/Organization: **Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Date Submitted: **April 7, 2014**

Appendix A Project Drawings